Project Summary Sheet

Project Name: Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District and Olney Creek Watershed Restoration Project

Tracking No: 200784114

Location: Redding, CA

County: Shasta

Project Sponsor: Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District

Point of Contact: Stan Wangberg, General Manager (530) 365-7329

Co-applicant(s): None

Assembly District: #2 Doug La Malfa **Senate District:** #4 Samuel Aanestad

Project Summary: At the intersection of the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District (ACID or District) Main Canal and Olney Creek is an approximately 80-year old structure that was intended to convey ACID irrigation water above the creek bed during the irrigation season and convey flood flows from Olney Creek in the winter. Flow through the structure is directed by placing (or removing) flashboards on all four sides of the rectangular structure. The configuration of the structure and the use of the flashboards leave the structure subject to vandalism resulting in unwanted spills and public safety issues. From a hydraulic and hydrologic standpoint, the configuration is undesirable, resulting in inefficient deliveries and spills to the creek that can cause unnaturally high flows during dry summer months and, in some cases, false attraction and subsequent stranding of salmon in otherwise dry or warm-water streams. Further, the canal banks have deteriorated to the point that they no longer provide adequate protection to residential areas in low-lying downstream areas. In the winter of 2005-2006, more than 20 mobile homes in a mobile home park incurred several feet of flood damage (ranging from 6 inches to 5 feet) due to a low point in an approximately 150-foot reach between a 1,900-foot levee and the Main Canal. ACID proposes with its project partners to remove the Olney Creek structure, siphon the ACID Canal under the Creek, and improve the Olney Creek banks.

Flood Benefits: The proposed project is to provide flood damage reduction through bank restoration to provide 25 year flood protection to more than 20 homes of disadvantaged community downstream of a deteriorated bank and to restore creek bed by hydraulically separating the ACID Main Canal from Olney Creek (i.e., siphoning the Canal under the Creek)

Agricultural Benefits: ACID is an agricultural water purveyor to approximately 7,000 acres within the District service area. Water is conveyed to customers via a 35 mile

Main Canal and lateral system on rotation bases. As such, periodic spills and losses of water due to vandalism (removal and/ or destruction of flashboards) at the Olney Creek structure can result in negative impact (water loss) to more than 600 acres which affects 50 – 75 customers.

Agricultural Land Conserved: N/A

Wildlife Benefits: Restored riparian habitat in the project area and a restored channel thalweg would reestablish previously disconnected habitat areas and provide a corridor for movement of both fish and terrestrial wildlife. The lands adjoining Olney Creek, upstream from the Main Canal, are undisturbed oak woodlands that provide significant wildlife habitat. .Neotropical migratory songbirds, such as vireos, chats, and warblers, utilize the blue and live oak woodlands and riparian habitats in the watershed for nesting, roosting, and foraging.

Total area conserved (Flood and Wildlife Habitat): 1.25 acres

Other Benefits: Western Shasta RCD has recently completed a fish passage barrier survey for tributaries on the west side of Redding including Olney Creek. There are no significant barriers to passage below the ACID canal crossing on Olney Creek. Although DFG does not believe that Olney is suitable for fall run salmon, it is believed that it would increase significant spawning area for resident (Sacramento River) rainbow trout. There is no difference regulatory-wise between these fish and steelhead, both *O. mykiss,* however the removal of this structure would broaden the time window and geographic range for upstream and downstream migration of *O. mykiss*.

Total Cost: $1,465,140

FPCP Cost: $1,412,700

Funding Partners and Share of Cost: Local Funds contributed $52,440.